

d.) Remarks

Counsel for applicant appreciates the comments of the examiner in allowing all of the claims in the application, with the exception of claims 1, 3, 5, and 7. The remaining claims were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

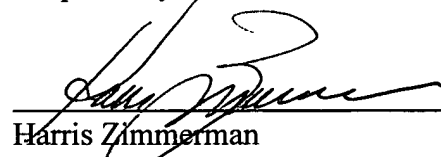
It will accordingly be noted that two of the rejected claims, namely claims 1 and 5 have been cancelled, but claims 3 and 7 have been rewritten so that they are now dependent on a claim indicated in the Office Action as being allowable.

An effort has been made to make sure that the claims now appearing in the case have the subject matter which the examiner has indicated was allowable.

If there are any questions that arise in connection with this amendment, or anything else related to this application, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney and attempt to wrap up the prosecution of this application at an early date.

Dated: January 31, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

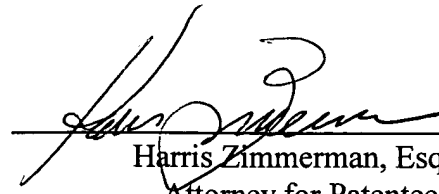


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. on January 31, 2005.

Date: January 31, 2005



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